

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 096963
ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096963

EXDIS, LONDON FOR MR. JOSEPH NYE

E.O. 11652:XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, PARM, BR, US

SUBJECT:LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT FROM PRESIDENT GEISEL

FOLLOWING IS OFFICIAL DEPARTMENT TRANSLATION OF ADVANCE TEXT
OF LETTER FROM PRESIDENT GEISEL TO THE PRESIDENT, DELIVERED
BY BRAZILIAN EMBASSY APRIL 25:

BEGIN TEXT: MR. PRESIDENT:

I HAVE RECEIVED THE ORIGINAL OF YOUR RECENT LETTER, THE
CONTENTS OF WHICH AMBASSADOR JOHN CRIMMINS WAS KIND ENOUGH
TO INFORM ME ABOUT IN ADVANCE ON MARCH 30.

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I AGREE WITH YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE USEFULNESS OF A
FRANK EXCHANGE ON MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE TO OUR TWO COUNTRIES.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE DIFFERENCES THAT EXIST -- WHICH ARE
NORMAL IN INTERNATIONAL LIFE -- I BELIEVE THAT IT IS POSSI-
BLE TO SAY THAT OUR GOVERNMENTS ARE CHARACTERIZED BY A
STRONG FEELING OF NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY.
MOREOVER, THE BONDS OF COOPERATION UNITING OUR TWO COUNTRIES

ARE TRADITIONAL.

IT WAS IN LINE WITH THAT COOPERATION THAT, IN RESPONSE TO THE DESIRE EXPRESSED ON APRIL 5 BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO RECEIVE THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT'S COMMENTS

AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE IDEAS THAT YOU WERE GOING TO OUTLINE ON APRIL 7 IN REGARD TO UNITED STATES NUCLEAR POLICY, I GAVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR BRAZIL'S VIEWS ON THE BRAZILIAN DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS OF THE MATTER TO BE COMMUNICATED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AS OF APRIL 6. I HOPE THAT THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT'S REACTION WAS USEFUL TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S PRIOR COMMUNICATION ABOUT YOUR ADDRESS OF APRIL 7, REFERENCE WAS MADE TO THE UNITED STATES COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHEN THE NPT, THE IAEA AND ITS SYSTEM OF SAFEGUARDS. ALTHOUGH THOSE SAME REFERENCES DO NOT APPEAR IN YOUR ADDRESS, I DO WISH TO AVAIL MYSELF OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO TELL YOU HOW MUCH MY GOVERNMENT AGREES WITH THOSE IDEAS, ON THE UNDERSTANDING, OF COURSE, THAT ANY MEASURES IN THAT DIRECTION WOULD ALWAYS BE UNIVERSAL AND NON-DISCRIMINATORY IN NATURE AND SHOULD CONTRIBUTE EFFECTIVELY TO A REAL REDUCTION OF THE RISKS OF NUCLEAR ARMS PROLIFERATION.

BRAZIL CAN DEFEND THAT POSITION, INASMUCH AS ALL OF ITS NUCLEAR PROGRAM IS INTENDED FOR SOLELY PEACEFUL PURPOSES, AND BEING BASED ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, IS CONFIDENTIAL

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ENTIRELY COVERED BY THE SYSTEM OF SAFEGUARDS. I WISH TO REFER HERE TO YOUR INTENTION, EXPRESSED IN YOUR SPEECH OF APRIL 14 AT OAS HEADQUARTERS, TO SIGN PROTOCOL I OF THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO AND TO ASK THE CONGRESS TO RATIFY THAT EXECUTIVE ACT. THIS GESTURE BY THE UNITED STATES WILL CERTAINLY HAVE GREAT IMPORTANCE FOR THE EFFECTIVE AND GENERAL ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE TREATY WHICH, MORE THAN ANY OTHER INSTRUMENT, PROMOTES THE CAUSE OF NON-PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THIS PART OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

BE ASSURED, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT'S CONDUCT IN ITS BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WILL ALWAYS BE CONSISTENT WITH THE FEELINGS OF FRIENDSHIP AND MUTUAL RESPECT THAT HAVE TRADITIONALLY CHARACTERIZED THE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES. I BELIEVE THAT I AM CORRECTLY INTERPRETING YOUR WORDS OF APRIL 14 TO THE OAS WHEN I JUDGE THAT IDENTICAL FEELINGS GUIDE THE UNITED STATES' CONDUCT IN

RELATION TO THE COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA IN GENERAL AND,
ACCORDINGLY, TO BRAZIL IN PARTICULAR. I CONSIDER IT USE-
FUL THAT ON THAT OCCASION YOU REFERRED TO RESPECT FOR THE
INDIVIDUALITY AND SOVEREIGNTY OF EACH STATE, AS WELL AS
TO THE VARIETY AND POTENTIAL OF THE NATIONS OF THE HEMI-
SPHERE. I BELIEVE THAT THOSE, BEYOND DOUBT, ARE THE VERY
CONDITIONS FOR FRIENDSHIP AMONG PEOPLES TO BE STRENGTHENED.

SINCERELY YOURS, (SIGNED) ERNESTO GEISEL. END TEXT.

:-:3

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Message Attributes

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